



Printed Protest exhibition June 2022 VPC

AUSTRALIAN QUEER ARCHIVES ANNUAL REPORT 2022



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Minutes of annual general meeting **Thursday 4 November, 2021**

Committee members 2022

as elected at Annual General Meeting, 3 December, 2021

Angela Bailey (President)

Timothy Jones (Vice President)

Clare O'Hanlon (Secretary)

Yorick Smaal (Treasurer)

Graham Willett

Sarah Rood

Daniel Marshall

Nick Henderson

Richard Keeble

Patrons

Professor Dennis Altman AM

Joan Nestle

Australian Queer Archives Inc

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Incorporated Assn No. A0000240Z

ABN 92 450 443 760

We acknowledge the Yaluk-ut Weelam Clan of the Boon Wurrung as Traditional Custodians of the land where our collection is kept. We pay respect to Elders past and present and to all First Nations people across this land and acknowledge the historic injustices to which they have been subjected and that Sovereignty was never ceded



NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING FOR THE YEAR 2022

The Annual General Meeting of the Australian Queer Archives Inc. (AQQA) will be held on:
Thursday 27 October 2022 at 6.00pm,
online and at the Victorian Pride Centre Theatrette,
Ground Floor, 79-81 Fitzroy Street, St Kilda

Agenda

1. Chairperson to open meeting
2. Apologies
3. Confirmation of the Minutes of the 2021 Annual General Meeting – included in the 2022 Annual Report
4. Office Bearers' Reports
5. Treasurer's Report
6. Number of Ordinary committee members
7. Election of Committee members. The Chairperson will call for nominations at the AGM.
 - President
 - Vice-President
 - Secretary
 - Treasurer
 - Ordinary Members
8. Other business

Guest Presentation - *Queer Medievalisms*

Michael Barbezat and **Miles Pattenden** have been regular visitors to AQQA as part of their research. They will share a short presentation about their project.

If you wish to appoint a proxy, please [download](#) and complete a proxy form and either return it by [email](#) as a PDF no later than 24 hours before the meeting time or provide it to the Chairperson of the meeting before or at the commencement of the AGM.

Please be aware that this meeting will be video recorded.

Refreshments will be available at the venue, and tours will be conducted of AQQA's new space at the Victorian Pride Centre after the meeting.

Clare O'Hanlon,

Secretary 2022

Annual Report Overview 2021-2022 – Ange Bailey

With the latter part of 2021 hampered by lockdowns, the Australian Queer Archives continued to operate and react well to the various restrictions and facilitate ongoing volunteer engagement, online presentations and collection access. Towards the end of the year, we opened up the space and again started operating more effectively.

The engagement of our office Coordinator, Claudine Chionh, solidified our operational capacity – particularly about maintaining and implementing the ever-changing covid plans and procedures required to open up and be accessible again to Committee, volunteers, researchers and visitors. We also welcomed visits by student groups (primary, secondary and university), visitors from interstate and overseas, a few politicians and the Governor of Victoria.

In December 2021, we held an online strategic planning day that facilitated discussion towards a new Strategic Plan for 2022-2024. The Plan continues to prioritise some key projects and considers our more forward-facing presence at the Victorian Pride Centre.

Our participation at Midsumma 2022 included a scale-backed version of our stall at Carnival and two sold-out St Kilda History walks, which started at the VPC and weaved around the back streets of St Kilda and included a range of guest presenters sharing the stories of queer life in the local area.

From March to July, we embarked on a series of programs and filmed resources in collaboration with the NGV that accompanied the QUEER exhibition, including events at both NGV and the Victorian Pride Centre. The filmed resource – ‘Mining the Archive’, is available via the NGV website. This programming relationship will continue, and we look forward to more collaborations.

A 2022 highlight was the *Printed Protest: Graphic Activism of the Australian Queer Archives* exhibition we presented in the Victorian Pride Centre gallery. Featuring over 100 + posters, placards and banners from the 1970s-today – the exhibition filled the space and engaged well with all visitors to the VPC.

We have continued to loan material to exhibitions, including the Defending with Pride exhibition at the Shrine of Remembrance and to make digital material available to a range of film, publication, creative, research, promotional and other projects that provide opportunities to make the collection more accessible. We also secured some funding to produce an exhibition at the Bondi Pavilion Gallery as part of Sydney World Pride in 2023.

Big thanks to all our volunteers - we’ve admired their resilience and dedication - both those who have been with us for a while and new volunteers who have taken up the task of archiving our queer histories. Thanks also to the ongoing support we receive from all our members and supporters.

In the year ahead, we have committed to solidifying our investments and are looking forward to upcoming events including a Symposium in December celebrating 50 years since the beginnings of Gay Liberation in Melbourne and a Footscray history walk and the ‘Archive Armour’ event in collaboration with new partners for Midsumma 2023.

Website

We continue to receive positive feedback about AQuA's new website. AQuA is in the early stages of incorporating *A History of LGBTIQ+ Victoria in 100 Places and Objects* section into the website and is looking forward to more projects highlighting collection material. The new website has also allowed the seamless integration of CiviCRM.

Equipment

We have a replacement for the desktop PC that has been used for much of our administrative and archival work over the past decade, as well as being the principal repository of material that has been digitised. We also have two new laptops, allowing multiple volunteer coordinators to be on duty and volunteers to work better with digitised material. All of these computers have large high-definition screens that will assist in creating and editing digitisations of our collection. A new digital projector is also on the way. Three second-hand laptops were received as part of a corporate donation to the Victorian Pride Centre. These have replaced the ten-year-old Hewlett-Packard laptops our volunteers use for cataloguing work and provide researchers with access to digitised collection materials.

Microsoft has supplied AQuA with a grant of a ten-user Microsoft 365 subscription which provides Word and Excel for all of our new equipment and provides improved online availability and security for our administrative files.

AQuA has a new multifunction printer/copier which replaces the old machine, which was reaching the end of support by the supplier. The new machine allows volunteers and researchers with Apple Macs to print via AQuA's network.

Committee

The Committee currently has nine active members – all of which are those nominated at the 2021 AGM. We continue to meet monthly and have several sub-committees for various projects. Thanks also to the contribution of Gary Jaynes, Trevor Sutherland and Bruce Dixon in managing the membership and annual membership drive. Thanks also to Erwin Mursalim for his involvement on the Finance Subcommittee.

Office Coordinator – Claudine Chionh overview

I joined AQuA as part-time office coordinator in July 2021 just two weeks before a long lockdown, so for my first five to six months my focus was on moving some of our activities online and ensuring that AQuA stayed compliant with ever-changing pandemic regulations. We started engaging past and new volunteers through a series of webinars introducing AQuA's collection and activities, held our first online AGM, and ran an online discussion panel marking the 40th anniversary of decriminalisation. With so much taking place online I began working with Richard Keeble on strengthening some of our internal digital processes. In the later stages of lockdown I was able to "re-open" AQuA's web shop by managing sales from my home office. The Pride Centre's Tenants' Working Group continued to meet monthly throughout this period and was a valuable resource for sharing our experiences of operating during lockdown.

It was a relief to be able to gradually return to the Pride Centre at the end of 2021 and resume our Reading Room fit-out and establishing two days a week when we are open for

access. Along with continuing review of our COVIDSafe plan, I have begun identifying other areas for improvement in occupational health and safety as we get to know our new space. I have also been working with committee and longstanding volunteers on upgrading our membership system, managing volunteer rosters, and assisting researchers using our collection.

TREASURER'S REPORT—Yorick Smaal

2021-2022 Finance Report

AQuA's result for the financial year 2021-22 is a net profit of \$180,445. This result represents a 50 per cent increase in the organisation's profit for 2020-21(\$121,596).

We note a small correction in the net profit in last year's annual report (\$121,596 not \$121,359), the \$237 difference due to a change in the Superannuation item.

The organisation's total equity for the same dates was \$790,919 (increasing from \$610,474 in 2020-21)

Income

Total trading income (shown as Gross profit): \$288,237.

Full details can be found in the accounts (attached).

Significant income items include:

- Donations (\$120,227).
- Bequest from Jay Watchorn (\$3000), which we gratefully acknowledge.
- St Alban's Bingo's operations raised \$15,915 net profit (gross fundraising income of \$34,094 less fundraising expenses of \$18,179). We remain grateful to Mathew Martini and the team for including us in their donation programme.
- Royalties from Gale for our participation in their digitisation of Australian queer periodicals (\$111,371).

Expenditure

Total operating expenses: \$107,792.

Full details can be found in the accounts (attached).

Significant expenses include:

- Staff remuneration (\$26,957), comprising salaries and wages (\$23,077) and superannuation (\$2,880).
- VPC Amenities Fee (shown as Office outgoings) (\$22 513).
- Bookkeeping fees (\$7,219).
- Storage (\$8,180) for permanent collections held off-site.

Cash position:

Bank: \$420,923.44.

Term deposit: \$351,410.

Other developments:

- COVID normal continued to pose challenges but had minimal effect on the bottom line.
- In July 2021, the archives appointed Claudine Chionh as the part-time office coordinator. Claudine's information management, digital platforms and data background have been invaluable to AQuA's operations and planning.
- AQuA also welcomed Bree Davis as its bookkeeper at the beginning of this financial year following the resignation of Kerry Harris. Bree has provided detailed, responsive and expert assistance as the organisation continues to refine financial processes.

Finance Subcommittee

The Finance-subcommittee oversees the organisation's fiscal operation, guided by responsibility, accountability and sustainability principles. It meets quarterly to review

budgeting, investment and financial performance and reports to the committee. Subcommittee members include Angela Bailey (president), Tim Jones (vice -president), Yorick Smaal (treasurer), Bree Davis (bookkeeper), Gary Jaynes (long-term, honorary volunteer bookkeeper) and new independent member, Erwin Mursalim (chartered accountant).

2022-23 Outlook

AQuA strengthening financial position over recent years is due primarily to significant donations and income from Gale royalties. These limited, non-continuing, unpredictable revenue streams mean AQuA must immediately capitalise and consolidate on its sound financial position to weather uncertain financial markets, a dynamic global economy, and increasing inflationary pressures. The forward estimates anticipate increased expenses and reduced income, underscored by the uncertainty of future Gale royalties. A prudent, long-term investment strategy is vital to ensuring AQuA can sustainably deliver its expanded activities and expectations, including wage costs, commensurate with its move to VPC.

Profit and Loss

The Australian Queer Archives 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2022

30 Jun 22

Income	
Archival Services	1,850
Bequests	3,000
Donation Income	120,227
Event Registrations	1,850
Fundraising	34,094
Interest Received	1,430
Membership Fees	7,004
Royalties	111,371
Sales - Badges	5
Sales - Postage	182
Sales - Publications	3,112
Sundry Income	4,112
Total Income	288,237
Gross Profit	
288,237	
Less Operating Expenses	
Archival Supplies	3,285
Bank Fees	343
Bookkeeping Fees	7,219
Car Hire	729
Catering	944
Consultants	2,340
Contractors	3,476
Couriers	818
Donations	699
Equipment Hire	733
Fees and Charges	55
Fundraising expenses	18,179
Insurance	3,437
Internet Connection	383
IT Equipment	1,455
IT Software Subscription	1,126
Memberships	49
Merchandise Costs - Publications	692
Merchant Fees	484
Office Amenities	19
Office Outgoings	22,513
Photocopier	248
Postage	1,468
Printing	634
Recruitment	154
Repairs & Maintenance	25

Profit and Loss

	30 Jun 22
Security	125
Stationery	388
Storage	8,180
Sundry Expenses	226
Superannuation	2,880
Taxi's and Public Transport	35
Venue Hire	445
Volunteer Recognition	120
Wages and Salaries	23,077
Website	573
Workcover	235
Total Operating Expenses	107,792
Net Profit	180,445

Balance Sheet

The Australian Queer Archives As at 30 June 2022

	30 JUN 2022	30 JUN 2021
Assets		
Bank		
Debit card	781.05	460.00
Gift Account	5,737.89	1,488.26
Online Saver	214,356.28	134,335.96
Ordinary Account	200,048.22	16,150.08
Total Bank	420,923.44	152,434.30
Current Assets		
Accrued Income	7,211.00	82,627.95
Debtors	60.00	3,200.00
Inventory	8,170.26	8,232.07
Prepayments	180.22	1,229.02
Term Deposit	351,410.01	350,000.00
Total Current Assets	367,031.49	445,289.04
Fixed Assets		
Computer and Office Equipment	10,549.70	6,402.00
Office Fitout	28,261.63	27,601.63
Total Fixed Assets	38,811.33	34,003.63
Total Assets	826,766.26	631,726.97
Liabilities		
Current Liabilities		
Accrued Expenses	47.49	488.95
Creditors	5,999.15	4,003.29
GST	(211.05)	-
Income in Advance	30,011.91	17,886.91
Rounding	-	(0.13)
Total Current Liabilities	35,847.50	22,379.02
Non-current Liabilities		
Superannuation Payable	-	(1,125.79)
Total Non-current Liabilities	-	(1,125.79)
Total Liabilities	35,847.50	21,253.23
Net Assets	790,918.76	610,473.74
Equity		
Accumulated Funds	610,473.74	488,877.65
Current Year Earnings	180,445.02	121,596.09
Total Equity	790,918.76	610,473.74

Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012

Sections 94(2)(b), 97(2)(b) and 100(2)(b)

**ANNUAL STATEMENTS GIVE TRUE AND FAIR
VIEW OF FINANCIAL POSITION OF
INCORPORATED ASSOCIATION**

We [Angela Bailey and Yorick Smaal] being members of
the Committee of the Australian Queer Archives Inc,
certify that —

The statements attached to this certificate give a true and fair
view of the financial position of the Australian Queer
Archives Inc during and at the end of the financial year of the
association ending on 30 June 2022.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of the letters 'A.B.' followed by a long horizontal line that curves upwards at the end.

Signed:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Yorick Smaal', written in a cursive style.

Dated: 27 October 2022

New membership and donation system

Until last year AQuA managed its members and donors using multiple online systems, including RegisterNow and GiveNow, with contact and payment information consolidated into a spreadsheet. As the number of AQuA's members and donors has grown, managing these systems has become increasingly time-consuming. Recent increases in RegisterNow's fees substantially increased costs.

This year AQuA implemented CiviCRM, a free, open-source customer relationship management system created especially for not-for-profit organisations. It allows the membership team to manage contact information, mail-outs, payments and event registration for AQuA's members, donors and friends. It is integrated into our website and is currently integrated with our PayPal account for payment processing.

Before we launched the system, AQuA's existing spreadsheet-based member and donor contact information was migrated to CiviCRM. CiviCRM was then used for this year's membership renewals and associated donations and made available for new-member sign-up. It has also been used for mail-outs and RSVPs for two events, including the AGM. The membership team has been working hard this year to learn how to use CiviCRM. We have experienced the inevitable hiccups when introducing a new computer system, mainly using PayPal for payments. We thank members and donors for their patience as we settle in with the new system. We plan to improve the payment experience and integration with the website in the coming year. Shortly it will be used for donations and replace AQuA's Google Group for communication. It has allowed us to retire RegisterNow, and enables us to withdraw GiveNow soon.

Membership report for 2021-22 annual report

There were 454 financial members of AQuA in 2021-22, exceeding the previous high of 441 in 2020-21.

One hundred thirty-five of last year's 441 members did not renew (30%), offset by 125 new members and 23 who re-joined as members after lapsing one or more years.

The attrition rate of 30% in 2020-21 compares with 21% in 2020-21, 41% in 2019-20, 26% in 2018-19, 25% in 2017-18 and 2016-17.

Analysis of this year's 135 non-renewals shows 62 (42%) joined the previous year, and 17 (13%) joined in 2019-20. Whilst some who lapse re-join after a year or two later, the challenge is to engage more effectively with recently joining members.

This year the proportion of members from outside Victoria was 34%, similar to the past few years. See below.

Members x

state	2021-22		2020-21		2019-20		2018-19	
ACT	15	3.3%	10	2.3%	7	2.2%	10	3%
NSW	92	20.3%	110	24.9%	74	23.4%	85	23%
NT	3	0.7%	1	0.2%	1	0.3%	2	1%
QLD	19	4.2%	16	3.6%	9	2.8%	8	2%

SA	11	2.4%	8	1.8%	11	3.5%	8	2%
Tas	4	0.9%	4	0.9%	6	1.9%	5	1%
VIC	301	66.3%	283	64.2%	204	64.6%	245	66%
WA	6	1.3%	4	0.9%	3	0.9%	4	1%
Overseas	3	0.7%	5	1.1%	1	0.3%	4	1%
Grand Total	454	100%	441	100%	316	100%	371	100%

In 2022-23, AQuA adopted a membership and payments system, CiviCRM, which provides improved capacity for automated receipting, targeted emails to members and donors, and customised reports. There have been some teething problems as we implemented the new system, and we thank members for their forbearance. We're grateful to committee member Richard Keeble assisted by office coordinator Claudine Chionh for their work in managing the setting up of CiviCRM to meet AQuA's needs. CiviCRM is open-source software widely used by not-for-profit organisations.

Donation and membership income analysis 2021-22

Donations contributed \$120,227 from 152 separate donations. This amount exceeds the donation income in any previous year (the nearest was \$74,438 in 2020-21 from 383 separate donations when many more individuals donated in response to the Fit Out campaign). A single donation of \$100,000 from Archives member, Chris Friday, accounted for much of this year's total.

The number of separate donations (152) is down on recent years (the lowest since 145 in 2011-12). This result is mainly due to the delay in sending out renewals for 2022-23 (usually sent 1 June with a due date of 1 July, delayed to 1 August this year).

The median donation in 2021-22 was about \$30 (50% gave more, 50% gave less) compared with just below \$50 in 2020-21 and between \$25 and \$30 in 2019-20. The mean donation of \$791 this year is significantly higher than in previous years due to the \$100K donation. See below for more on the spread of donations by \$ amount.

Donations 2021-22				
	Number of donations	\$	Mean	% of total donation \$
0 to \$20	63	\$947	\$15	1%
\$21 to \$50	44	\$1,735	\$39	1%
\$51 to \$100	22	\$2,126	\$97	2%
\$101 to \$500	17	\$5,375	\$316	4%
\$501 to \$1000			NA	0%
Over \$1000	6	\$110,044	\$18,341	92%
	152	\$120,227	\$791	100%

96 of the 152 separate donations (63%) in 2021-22 were from members, accounting for \$117,548 (98%) of donation income, compared with the equivalent proportions of 68% and 69% last year.

Some donors of more significant amounts kindly donated by direct credit to minimise fees charged to AQuA, and we appreciate this consideration.

Membership fee revenue in 2020-21 was \$7,004 compared with \$7,085 in 2020-21. Fees from new members who joined in Jan-June 2022, regarded as financial to 30.6.2023, have been treated as income in 2022-23, consistent with accrual accounting standards.

Thank you to our donors

DA	Claudine Chionh	Brenton Head in memory
FA	Nick Crotty	of Sarah Lombardi
LA	Christopher Cutler	Nick Henderson
Robert Aldrich	ZD	Trent Hennessey
The late Kevin Anderson	Jose Da Silva	David Hilliard
Iona Annett	Sophia Davidson-Gluyas	Anthony Hillis
Jim Arachne	Bree Davis	Richard Hogan
Australian Embassy in	Mannie De Saxe	Philomena Horsley
Mexico	Peter de Waal	Deborah Hunn
Gareth B	Max Denton	DJ
Kaye B	Laura Deriu	DJB
Kim B	Peter Di Sciascio	Lucinda J
MB	Lee-Anne Dimech	MJ
PB	Bruce Dixon	SJ
RB	Bin Dixon-Ward	TJ
Joshua Badge	Carla Donnelly	Gary Jaynes
Barbara Baird, in memory	Louise Dressing	Hilary Johnson in memory
of Chris Thomas	Digby Duncan	of Karen Bloomberg
Michael Barnett	Eagle Leather	PK
Alex Bayley	Sam Elkin	Richard Keeble
Brian Barry	Maureen Elkin	Emma Knock
Laurie Bebbington	Maureen Engel	Leigh Keen, in memory of
Andrew Bell	AF	Graham Carbery
Marja Berclouw	Michael Fenaughty	Barbara Kerr
Ian and Javant Biarujia	Neal Fitzgerald	Trevor Kollmann
Gray Birch	Claire Flynn	Glen Lo
Frank Bongiorno	Chris Friday	Emily Loynd
Jacobin Bosman	Chris Furneaux	AM
David Bradford	Briony Galligan	CM in memory of Ayman
Theo Bridge	Jamie Gardiner	Barbaresco
Anna Brownfield	Ian Gould	GM
AC	Bruce Grant	JM
Alyson C	Edward Griffith	KM
BC	Avril H	MM
CC	FH	CMcG
Hannah C	William H	Reece M
JCC	Richard Harding	Valda M
RC	Tay Haggarty	Michael McDougall
Bill Calder	John Hannaford	Chips Mackinolty
Paul Caulfield	Kerry Harris	James Macleod
Ben Cherry-Smith	Caleb Hawk	Jodie Martire

Michael McDougall	Phyllis Papps in memory of Francesca Curtis	Jenny Scott
Erin McKenna	FP	Lu Sexton
Murray McLachlan	Spiros Panigirakis	Bruce Sims
Johnathon McLay in memory of Tim Lennox	Fiona Patten	Jeff Slingsby in memory of Graham Carbery
Tristan Meecham	Mark Payne	Adam Stankevicius
David Menadue	Baburam Poudel	Geoffrey Stewardson
Michael Merrin	David Provan	Douglas Stewart
Jim Mitchell	Queer-ways	Jeffrey Stewart
Jina Mitchell	ER in memory of Steve	Peter Sutton
Adam Moffat	Duke	Suzi Taylor
Michael Monty	Ian R	Alison Thorne
SN	JR	LU
Joan Nestle in memory of Karen Bloomberg	MR	Olympia U
Mez Newman	Mark R	David Urquhart
Colin Nugent	RR	PVR
Ivan Nunn	WR	Bart van der Wel in memory of William Colin Litchfield, 9.10.1937 – 28.8.2021
CO	John Ronge	JW
Kieran O'Loughlin, in memory of John Harvey	Kate Rowe	RWH
Foster	ES	SW
Mark Orr	KS	Richard Walters
MPC in memory of Jon Eliot	TS	Julie Wilkinson
	YS	Margaret Young
	Evanthia Samaras	
	David Sansome	
	Teresa Savage	

ACQUISITION HIGHLIGHTS

AQuA's acquisition volume has returned to pre-Covid 19 numbers. It has been a bumper year with some exciting acquisition highlights. Some notable collections received include trans-focused archival collections, master audio-visual recordings relating to community TV in Sydney, and additions to a range of papers from significant community members. In addition to these highlights, we receive a regular stream of small donations of books, badges, posters, ephemera, and t-shirts. The latter includes a wealth of material regularly collected and donated by the tireless efforts of Ulo Klemmer in Sydney and books on our Want List from Peter di Sciascio. The following list is a selection of the 165 acquisitions in the last year, highlighting archival, unpublished, and unique collections received.

- Jullianne Deen Collection: photographs and ephemera documenting drag performances in the 1970s-1980s, particularly Les Girls Melbourne.
- Mark Dickson Collection (Deepfield Photography): venue documentation of Colombian Hotel, Sydney, following renovation and creation of the rooftop bar.
- Records of Gay and Lesbian Immigration Task Force (GLITF), Victoria (addition): newsletters and books.
- Papers of Tom Seddon: documenting Sydney Gay Games 2002, and 6th International Congress on AIDS in Asia and the Pacific (ICAAP).
- Papers of Kerry O'Sullivan: partner immigration and personal.
- Papers of Peter de Waal (addition): VHS tapes.
- Records of RMIT Queer Department: photographs, records, posters, and ephemera.
- Papers of Michael Hurley and Michael Hurley Book Collection: an extensive collection of research and literary papers, along with missing books (literature and HIV/AIDS research).
- Papers of Jossi Clyde (addition): 8 vols of diaries, and an updated draft of STET: a memoir.
- Papers of Sara Elkas: Jewish Lesbian Group of Victoria.
- Papers of Dennis Altman (addition): books, ephemera (matchbooks), photographs etc.
- Papers of Michael Barnett (addition): various Aleph and LGBTI Jewish material, LGBTI community ephemera.
- Papers of David Hilliard (addition): material documenting LGBTI life in Adelaide (e.g. theatre programs, Ian Purcell, 1346 Club, Flinders Uni Gay Soc etc.)
- Papers of Matthew Blackmore: Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence, Gay Solidarity Group (GSG).
- Markham Lane Collection: Pink Triangle Swarovski crystal headpiece and photographs.
- Frank van Straten Collection (addition): LPs, CDs, DVDs, VHS, programs, posters, photographs, and magazines.
- Lee Bruce Lee Collection: costume and Drag King of the Year 2004 award.
- Papers of Elaine Norlington (addition): photographs and documents relating to the Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras Parade and art exhibitions.

- Papers of Fabian LoSchiavo (Mother Inferior) (addition): Habit of Mother Inferior, c. 1990s-2020s
- Papers of Julie Bates (addition): Debbie's costume, ephemera, and artwork.
- Papers of Julie Peters: Seahorse Victoria records.
- Volunteers in Crisis Collection: oral history recordings and associated documentation for the project Volunteers in Crisis: Analysing Responses to Human Immunodeficiency Virus in Australia (ARC Discovery Project 2016 Round, DP160103548).
- Papers of Jean Steele: Victorian Transsexual Coalition (VTC).
- Robert Albert Lott (Lottie) Collection (addition): 4x Arts Ball costumes made by Bill Brooks for Lottie and a box of Lottie's costume jewellery.
- Jade-snow Kemety Collection: G.O.D outfit (jacket with patch, shirt and tie), photographs, patches.
- Papers of Ted Gott: documenting the exhibition he curated at the National Gallery of Australia, 'Don't leave me this way: art in the age of AIDS'.
- Aung Saw Lim (Man Man) Collection: 2x crochet jumpers produced by Man Man while in detention on Manus Island
- Papers of Gary Schliemann (addition): 15x telephone books for the Wellington Boot, c.1980-85.
- Papers of Roberta Perkins (addition): personal papers.
- Records of AIDS Care, Melbourne.
- Craig Payne Collection: master audio-visual recordings relating to Queer TV (2002) (MiniDV and DVDR), and Miss 3D in NYC (VHS)
- Papers of Frederick (Ricky) Patten: The Amazing Doreens / Grot Awards (Super 8 film, tee shirt, photographs, sunglasses).
- Karen from Finance Collection: 'Yes' postal survey dress made and worn by drag queen Karen from Finance in 2017.
- Papers of Alison Thorne (addition); periodicals; t-shirts; banner; poster.
- Letter from John Sakai to Leonard Marquis, 11 July 1944: The letter refers to a range of friends and activities in New Guinea during WWII, which includes a wealth of kamp (homosexual) subtext.
- Queer TV Collection (addition): master tapes for Queer TV programming in the early 1990s on Channel 31 (Sydney).
- Papers of Gary Grinter: Miss Fitz drag shows.
- Papers of Aaron Myers: Queer Collaborations, 1996-1999.
- Papers of an unidentified Elagabelus Motor Club member: photo album, overlay, pennant.

RESEARCH

Research has been progressively increasing since our relocation to our expanded facilities in the Victorian Pride Centre from 1 December 2021 and the impact of the last Omicron variant of Covid-19. Research has been principally available onsite on Mondays 6-10 pm and Wednesdays 10 am-4 pm and 6-10 pm, with additional times available subject to negotiation. In addition, an increasing number of reference enquiries are supported remotely, significantly assisted by the accessibility of our digitised periodicals contributions

to the Archives of Sexuality and Gender (ASG) database. Selected researchers and topics include:

- Reece Moir (Hons candidate): History of BDSM in Australia. Material accessed includes leather and BDSM periodicals, including heterosexual-focused titles, venue and event ephemera.
- Lorcane Deriu (PhD candidate): Contested identities and communities: a linguistic investigation into Australian lesbian print media (1970-2000), material accessed lesbian print media, mainly via the Archives' contribution to Gale's Archives of Sexuality and Gender database.
- Christine Melis (Counsel Assisting, Special Commission of Inquiry into LGBTIQ hate crimes): community response to LGBTIQ hate crimes in Sydney in the 1980s-1990s.
- Dr Miles Pattenden, Dr Michael David Barbezat, and PhD candidate Harriet Steele: 'queer medievalism', in particular, examples of how queer people applied medieval models to contemporary needs or used the inspiration of the Middle ages in all forms of art and thought. Their research has included reliquaries produced by the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence to posters from Sydney Leather Pride's Inquisition parties.
- Harriet Steele (PhD candidate): the place of Australian lesbian magazines in community production and maintenance from the 1970s to the 1990s.
- Adrien McCrory (PhD candidate): Transgender Australians and their Interactions with the Justice System in 20th-Century Australia. You can find out more about Adrien's research in his article 'Policing gender nonconformity in Victoria, 1900–1940', in the Public Record Office of Victoria (PROV) journal Provenance, n19: <https://bit.ly/3mjHBPO>, and his PROV presentation for International Archives Day 2021 'Uncovering Transgender Criminal Histories in Turn of the Century Victoria': https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bcJO_Vwutng.
- Tinonee Pym (PhD candidate): ARC Queer Migrations project (<https://lgbtqlifestories.org/>)
- Alice McInnes: researching the Gay and Lesbian Kingdom of the Coral Sea Islands for their Queer as Fact podcast (<https://queerasfact.podbean.com/e/the-gay-and-lesbian-kingdom-of-the-coral-sea-islands/>).
- Courtney Bree (Masters candidate): graphic histories of Melbourne queer/lesbian women, leading to the co-creation of a typeface(s).
- Tim Smyth: Acceptance Melbourne 50th anniversary
- Melissa Bellanta (Assoc Prof of Modern History, ACU): queer engagements with menswear and dress more generally - with a particular focus on secondhand shopping and DIY fashion worn to balls, parties, dancewear, marches, drag king acts and to a lesser extent, other drag acts and what queer members of their audiences wore, between the 1970s-90s.
- Kelly Glanney: research for a memoir, with a particular reference to the evolution of trans advocacy in Victoria during the late 1980s and 1990s.
- James Brown (PhD candidate): research for a PhD in creative writing, including representation of queer characters and queer histories in genre fiction, particularly crime fiction and Melbourne beat histories.

- Josh McKenzie (Masters candidate): history of bisexuality in Australia.
- Christen Tynan: queer folklore, particularly the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence, their materials and formation, their mythology and rituals.
- Ollie Patterson (Honours candidate): Bfriend, a South Australian LGBT+ service.
- Carolina Toppan Rabello (PhD candidate): Victorian Pride Centre, from implementation to post-occupancy, exploring the impact of the Centre's visibility and belonging in the queer architectural field of study.
- Megan Spencer: Gay Ex-Services Association (GESA) for a podcast for the Shrine of Remembrance (<https://podcasts.apple.com/au/podcast/defending-with-pride-voices-phil/>).
- Anna Grigoriev: AIDS epidemic in Australia.
- Sammy Wilkinson: Melbourne beats/saunas
- Maxwell Denton (PhD candidate): same-sex marriage history.

VOLUNTEERS

Volunteer engagement has been progressively increasing post-Covid-19 lockdowns and our relocation to the Victorian Pride Centre; this follows on from no regular onsite volunteering able to be undertaken from 2020 to 2021. Since we have restarted onsite volunteering, our Volunteer Coordinators have supported volunteers on Mondays (Nick Henderson: 6-10 pm) and Wednesdays (Graham Willett: 10 am-5 pm, and Nick Henderson: 6-10 pm).

We have conducted several induction sessions, introducing volunteers to the history of the Archives, the scope of the collection, our activities, and our cataloguing processes. The Volunteer Program has also been greatly assisted by input from our Office Coordinator, Claudine Chionh.

Our onsite volunteers have continued to work through cataloguing and rehousing a wealth of material in our backlog, in particular our Books Collection, including finishing off collections from Barry Lowe and Michael Hurley; our Badge Collection backlog; and our Tshirt Collection, including collections from ALSO Foundation, Rob Davis, Mark O'Brien, and Ulo Klemmer.

Thanks to all our volunteers, including Alex, Astra, Christen, David B, David P, Ed, Eleanor, Amma, Harper, Khrys, Pelaya, Trou, Alan, Joel, Catriona, Dylan, Gary, Penn, Benjamin, Jess, Julia, Thea, Camille, Emily, Fen, Jillian, John Marama, Marlo, Milo, and Saskia.

SOCIAL MEDIA

Facebook

The Archives' Facebook page and group continued to grow in number of likes and views throughout 2021-22. The Facebook page continued to focus on posting short posts about events #OnThisDay, new acquisitions, researchers, volunteers and the work of our Committee Members. AQuA's Facebook page has 12,784 likes and 14,026 follows (17 Oct 2022), up from 12,033 likes on 13 October 2021 and 11,033 likes on 25 Oct 2020.

Our posts with the most extensive reach included Vale posts recognising the lives of community icons Dr Sue Wills and Miss Candee (Ron Walker), an Archer magazine article by Lisa Salmon on the G.O.D. gang, the 25th anniversary of the decriminalisation of homosexual sex in Tasmania, the 50th anniversary of the murder of Dr George Duncan, and our Mother's/Mothers' Day post.

Our Facebook group focuses on articles and issues on LGBTI history and archives in Australia and internationally. It facilitates discussion and community around Australian and international LGBTI history. Our group currently includes 6496 members (17 Oct 2022, up from 5,917 members (13 Oct 2021) and 4,553 (25 Oct 2020).

Twitter

Our Twitter presence (@AQuArchive) is steadily growing, and we have 2,956 Followers (17 Oct 2022, up from 2,490 at November 1 2021). Our primary audience on Twitter continues to be researchers and Gallery, Library Archive and Museum (GLAM) sector workers. Posts with the most significant reach include tributes, #OnThisDay collection highlights, podcast and TV appearances, coordinator, exhibitions and other events, a call out for Australian queer cookbooks, and posts about unique guest visitors to our new home at the Victorian Pride Centre!

LinkedIn

This year we joined LinkedIn as a new way to help us connect with volunteers, artists, the Victorian Pride Centre and fellow tenants, and eventually help us recruit for paid and volunteer positions. We have 79 followers so far.

Connect with us: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/australian-queer-archives>

Events/programming

December 2021

Putting the sex back into law reform: a public lecture and panel discussion

As Victoria celebrated the 40th anniversary of the decriminalisation of sex between men earlier this year, we invited Dr Leigh Boucher, Jamie Gardiner, Sally Goldner and Jane Green to reflect on this event and the subsequent 40 years of law reform activism.

January 2022

- St Kilda Queer History Walks
- Excited to be out of lockdown and hosting events again, we hosted not one but two St Kilda History Walks.
- What we found when we went looking for queer heritage, Prahran Mechanics Institute, March 2022
- Queer Discussions – What's in a name?
Angela Bailey and Nick Henderson joined NGV curator Meg Slater as part of their Queer Discussions series to discuss the evolution of queer language in organisations and institutions, including reflecting on the community consultation recently undertaken to change the name of the Australian Queer Archives (formerly the Australian Lesbian and Gay Archives).

<https://www.ngv.vic.gov.au/live-stream/queer-discussions-whats-in-a-name/>

June 2022

- **Queer Stories from the Archives**
For International Archives Day, Australian Queer Archives' Angela Bailey discussed five historical records in the Public Records Office of Victoria's collection that have a specific and unique meaning to Victoria's contemporary queer communities. These records, from love letters to divorce papers and petitions, were chosen to be included in "A History of LGBTIQ+ Victoria in 100 Places and Objects." The selection was highly relevant to the theme for International Archives Day 2022, #ArchivesAreYou and explored the importance of seeing our communities' stories reflected in our archives.

July 2022

- **Australian Queer Archives and Queer Indonesia Archive in conversation**
The conversation was an inspiring and fascinating comparison of the two archiving projects. The similarities and differences in the approaches were explored, as well as a brief overview of the historical contexts that led to both projects' formation. AQuA also shared some of the Indonesia-related materials in their collection.

Participants shared the excitement and challenges in archiving communities' histories throughout the workshop. They discussed issues around material description and discoverability, the ongoing work of maintaining an ethical archive practice and the challenges of digital-born materials. We also shared some of our exhibitions, including the incredible exhibition at the Pride Centre.

Thank you also to Helen Pausacker for sharing some of her experiences of the early solidarity work between the movements in Melbourne and Indonesia. We hope this will be the first of many collaborations and spaces for sharing between the two projects.

- **NGV QUEER X AQuA series, featured interviews with Angela Bailey, Nick Henderson and Joan Nestle:**
<https://www.ngv.vic.gov.au/multimedia/queer-people-archiving-their-histories/>
- **Queer As Fact: [The Gay and Lesbian Kingdom of the Coral Sea Islands](#)**
The Queer As Fact podcast discussed queer micronation, the Gay and Lesbian Kingdom of the Coral Sea Islands. Join us to hear about the joys and tribulations of founding a country, the Gay and Lesbian Kingdom's war with Australia, and of course, the Royal Dog. Co-host Alice visited the Archives to do research for this episode, and they gave a shout-out to the Archives' collection and community work.
- **Nick Henderson Independent Australian libraries and archives**
<https://2mce.org/podcast/sics-radio-independent-australian-libraries-and-archives-part-2/>
 - **Nick Henderson Alternative collections**
<https://acca.melbourne/program/distribution-series-2-alternative-collection/>
 - **How do you do that? [Clare O'Hanlon: Australian Queer Archives](#) (Joy Radio)**

Clare O’Hanlon, a librarian by day and archivist by night, chatted about their work at the Australian Queer Archives, how their two jobs inform one another, what the Australian Queer Archives are, and their importance.

- [The Accidental Archivist \(Compass, ABC\)](#)

The Archives featured significantly in this documentary about local trans legend Julie Peters and her extensive personal trans archive collection – a little bit of which has now found a home at AQuA.

<https://www.abc.net.au/religion/watch/compass/the-accidental-archivist/13942686>

VALE to members of the community who have recently died

Geoff Allingham
Kevin Anderson
Elizabeth Burton
Christine Carpenter
Uncle Jack Charles
Max Cleaveley
Francesca Curtis
Chris Dobney
Dr David Hardy
Alex Harding
Markham Lane
Ron Walker (Miss Candee)
Jon Vincent
Deborah McCulloch
Dianne Grant
Nan McGregor
Michael Zaar
Margot Rijnders
Sue Wills



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Minutes of Australian Queer Archives 2021 Annual General Meeting

held (due to Covid restrictions) via zoom webinar

Thursday 4 November, 2021 at 6pm.

(All online voting monitored by the Secretary)

1. Chairperson Angela Bailey to opening meeting and gives an Acknowledgement of Country and invites participants to acknowledge where they are zooming in from via the chat.

Attendees: Angela Bailey, Clare O’Hanlon, Timothy Jones, Yorick Smaal, Daniel Marshall, Graham Willet, Richard Keeble, Nick Henderson, Sarah Rood, Gary Jaynes, Trevor Sutherland, Claudine Chionh, Bruce Dixon, Zoo Davies, Michael Monty, Michael Fenaughty, Karen Douglas, Bart van der Wel, Fi Paskulich, Hilary Johnson, Michael Barnett, Tom Seddon, Lauren Clair, Eleanor Colla, Murray McLachlan, Eric Riddler, Joan Nestle, Richard Harding, Rob Cover, Richard Peterson, Johnathon McLay, Peter de Waal, Jonathan Butler, Michael Hurley, Emma Ramsay, Kenton Miller, Rod Spark, James MacLeod, Paul van rey, Kerry Harris, David Branigan, Joshua Mcfarlane, Colin Krycer, Jamie Gardiner, John Witte, Alan Williams, Bruce Mooee, Chris Friday, David Provan, Mathew Martini, DAVID BRADFORD, Jeff Trollope, Maree Gladwin, Bernard Gardiner, Avril Hannah-Jones, Dianne Johnston, KL Joy, Marina Larsson, Michael McDougall

2. Apologies

Kerry Harris, Dennis Altman, Kevin Anderson, Adria Castellucci, Kate Davison, C. Moore Hardy, Anthony Hillis, David Owen, Susan Potter, Anton Provan, Henry Ruge-Rosas, Lu Sexton, Jean Taylor, Ardy Tibby

3. Angela introduces guest speaker Todd Fernando, Victoria's Commissioner for LGBTIQ+ Communities, and acknowledges his gift to the Archives of a Queer Memories Book (available in the Reading Room) which has a heartfelt welcome from Aunty Di Kerr. Tom discusses his role, upcoming Pride in our future: Victoria's first whole-of-government LGBTIQ+ strategy, community engagement and takes some questions from members.
4. Confirmation of the minutes from the AQuA AGM held on 30 October 2020

Proposed: KL Joy

Seconded: Lauren Clare

Majority supported.

Motion passed/carried.

5. Officer Bearer's Reports

Angela Bailey, President gives an overview of the year

- Moving into the Victorian Pride Centre over the last 12 months. Thanks to Cancer Council Victoria for interim in-kind storage and also to ABR for interim in-kind storage.
- Change of name operational requirements, thanks to all who contributed to the engagement
- Fit out of AQuA space – after a funding call out, thanks to donors we raised funds to implement the designs and fit out of the space as provided by Andrew Zunica
- Regular VPC Tenants Working Group meetings
- Signed the Letter of Agreement – thanks to Justice Connect and Ashurst Lawyers for their support and advice
- Engagement of Claudine Chionh as Office Coordinator part-time as outlined in our Strategic Plan. Claudine introduces herself to the meeting
- A few cancellations of programming events due to Covid
- Heritage 100 project - successfully launched online

6. **Treasurers Report** – Graham Willett

AQuA is in a healthy state financially and was able to maintain a level of support through the pandemic with memberships and donations. We were impacted by the cancellation of History walks and Midsumma Carnival though which do provide a small surplus after expenses. AQuA's financial result for the 2019 – 20 financial year is a net profit of \$121,000 – now invested into the operations of the organisation. This includes \$74,000 in donations (\$34,000 was for the fit out of the AQuA space), \$11,000 from the At Albans Bingo Operations thanks to the Martini family (also disrupted by Covid). \$71,000 in royalties from GALE – this is the second payment and is still unclear how this continues year by year.

Other costs have included: Bookkeeping/Storage and relocation, Website (mainly from grant funds) Relocation, Consultants for the Heritage 100 project

Bookkeeper Kerry Harris resigned to pursue other opportunities– extremely thankful for her efforts in guiding the Committee and Finance Sub Committee, setting up procedures, monitoring progress and training Committee in reading and monitoring accounts. Kerry introduced a number of systems that have better focused our financial operations.

The Finance Sub Committee continues to meet regularly throughout the year and ensures that our finances are sustainably managed and in order. They report back to Committee. The Sub Committee is currently investigating further investment options for our term deposits. Our projected ongoing expenditure going forward includes operational cost for our space at the VPC (et per Square metre by VPC); Office Coordinator position (.4 position); contracted Bookkeeper.

Graham Acknowledged the ongoing vote in confidence and support from our members.

Treasurers Report accepted

Proposed Nick Henderson
Seconded Michael Monty
Reports have been accepted

Ange reported that the 'A History of LGBTIQ+ Victoria in 100 Places and Objects' won two Awards over the last 12 months include Highly Commended in the Volunteer Museums category at the AMAGA (Australian Museums and Galleries Association) Award and First Prize in the Local History Award at the Victorian PROV (Public Record Office Victoria) History Awards.

Membership Report

Ange presented the report on behalf of the Membership Team (Gary Jaynes, Bruce Dixon and Trevor Sutherland) and the project to work towards a new membership system which should assist in managing (more detail in the Annual Report)

There were 441 financial members of ALGA in 2020-21, up from 316 in 2019-20, exceeding the previous high of 371 in 2018-19. 66 of last year's 316 members did not renew (21%), offset by 137 new members and 54 people who re-joined as members after lapsing one or more years.

The attrition rate of 21% in 2020-21 is lower than it has been in recent years (41% in 2019-20, 26% in 2018-19, 25% in 2017-18 and 2016-17) – and the lowest since 2011-12, when the attrition rate was 20% of 169 members. This year the proportion of members from outside Victoria was 36%, similar to the previous few years.

Donations contributed \$74,348.49 from 383 separate donations. This is nearly twice the amount of donation income in any previous year (nearest was \$37,749 in 2016-17). Over \$34K of the total came from a very generous response to the Fit Out Appeal in February 2021 (123 donations, mean donation \$277). 260 of the 383 separate donations (68%) in 2020-21 were from members, accounting for \$45,203 (69%) of donation income.

Also Acknowledge the ongoing bequest by Chris Friday over a period of years to AQuA who has recently donated \$100,000 – many thanks to Chris Friday in considering the ongoing future of the organisation. Thanks also to our members who when they apply for membership also top up with a donation which really assists our operations and has enabled us to employ the part-time office coordinator. Thanks to the Membership team – Gary Jaynes, Bruce Dixon and Trevor Sutherland.

7. Video Tour/Images of new AQuA space at the Victorian Pride Centre – played to members

Richard Keeble provided a interactive presentation of the new AQuA website and it's functionality.

Nick Henderson provided an overview of recent acquisitions into the collection and noted the impact of Covid on receiving material over this period and also that many people had spent the lockdowns looking through their own material and what they might consider donating and how best to manage. Acquisitions highlighted:

- Ann Sheridan – 191 items, pre – documenting Sydney Lesbian Graphix.
- Collection of ticket stubs for Gay Lib dances (1972-73 from Gregg Blatchford – very unique.
- Mama Alto – acquired papers from Mama Alto documenting her performance career and an additional donation of a portrait by the artist Chloe Neight of Mama Alto.
- Julie Ann Dean – Trans woman, photographs, clipping – documents Les Girls and Play Girls.
- Lush documenting their involvement in the SLGM.
- Sally Gray papers donation – relating to predominantly David McDiarmid and Peter Tully – including his trip to the USA in 1977.
- Peter DeWald – continues to donate posters (VD poster and other early AIDS material.
- Artist Anj Hansen and UB Topia Lesbian Hanky series,
- Noel Lewington overlay/jacket adds to the photographs we also have in the collection (more info in the Annual Report)

Clare O’Hanlon provides an overview of events – including those online – Introduction to Volunteering, Oral History transcribing, Transcribing letters - exploring how we can do remote volunteering and learning. This online participation will be further used for engagement with the archives by volunteers. Upcoming events at Midsumma 2022 including the St Kilda History walks and the upcoming Thesis Prize has opened for submissions.

Election of committee members

8. Six ordinary committee members plus executive positions – this number will remain unchanged.

9. All committee members renominated with a change in treasurer

No nominations from the floor.

Declared that the following people have been elected:

Executive committee

President – Angela Bailey

Vice-President – Timothy Jones

Secretary – Clare O’Hanlon

Treasurer – Yorick Smaal

Ordinary committee members:

Graham Willett

Richard Keeble

Daniel Marshall
Sarah Rood
Nick Henderson
Yorick Smaal

Sarah Rood – thank Ange for her work throughout the year
Ange: thanks to everyone who has come along tonight. Stay safe and we look forward to welcoming you back to the Archives soon.

AGM 2021 Meeting closed: 7.38pm